Heather Fries 8 Gallup Lane, Waterford, CT 06385 860-910-6225

Dear Senators Osten & Formica, Representative Walker, and Members of the Appropriations Committee:

The FRC has been and is currently instrumental in my children's development. The playgroups offer developmentally appropriate activities everyday, such as sensory experiences, dramatic play, art and gross motor fun. In addition to the daily play groups; the FRC also exposes my children to nature, marine science and dance by inviting local centers and instructors from the area. These are opportunities that my children simply would not have on a regular basis without this program.

If the FRCs were cut, I would miss being able to see my children in a diverse social setting on a regular basis. I would miss the other families that have become like my own. We have developed very close ties with one another and all take part in our children's growth and development. It takes a village for sure! And last but certainly not least; I would miss the incredibly talented, kind and qualified staff.

To me, FRC means I can provide my children with experiences that I otherwise would not be able to afford. My children have absolutely thrived in this program and I am so thankful to have been offered the FRC's services. It would be a great disservice to not support this program in the future.

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